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Title: Issues relating to the methods followed in carrying out the APL/BPL survey by the National Sample Survey (NSS).

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (MAVELIKARA): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House that presently 37.1 per cent of the people of Kerala is enjoying the benefits of BPL. Now, as per the latest National Sample Survey estimates, the rural poverty in Kerala is only 9.38 per cent. The NSS survey is based on a very small sample and the details are not very transparent. The Ministry of Rural Development has instructed that the total percentage of the BPL population arrived at after the household survey, should not exceed the NSS figure by more than 10 per cent. This is unscientific, arbitrary and cruel. This will result in nearly 50 per cent of the BPL families losing their benefits. This would even cause unrest. I urge upon the Government to rectify this anomaly so that the eligible poor people continue to get the benefits under the BPL.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Francis George.

Do not refer to any State matters please.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (IDUKKI): Sir, this is a matter pertaining to various States.

MR. SPEAKER: You raise it.